Help Rendered by UNESCO to Kerala to Achieve Cent-Percent Literacy

6216. SHRI M. RAMANNA RAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent by Kerala Government to achieve cent-percent literacy;

(b) whether any help was rendered by UNESCO in this regard; and

(c)if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) The literacy Campaign, Kerala was implemented by the Kerala Saksharta amiti set up as a registered society under the chairmanship of the chief Minister. The Samiti has spent a sum of Rs. 370 lakhs out of the grant provided by the Government of India and Rs 60 lakhs from the grant received from the UNICEF.

Government of Kerala, itself, has not directly met any expenditure for the campaign.

(b) No assistance was received from the UNESCO for the campaign.

(c) Does not arise.

National Iodine Deficiency Control Programme

6217. KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Iodine Deficiency Control Programme is being implemented in Raigarh District in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) whether the Government have identified the number of mental and physical deformaties caused in this district due to deficiency of Iodine; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to check the use of Iodine salt by tribals in the area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D. K. THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. The Govt. have identified the problem of Iodine deficiency in Raigarh district of Madhya Pradesh. Surveys conducted in Raigarh district in 1980 revealed that the incidence of goitre was 34. 82% and the incidence of mental and physical deformities 2.3%.

In order to overcome the problem of Iodine Deficiency, the Government of Madhya Pradesh on the advice of the Central Government have issued notification banning the sale of salt other than iodised salt in the entire State of Madhya Pradesh for edible purposes. During the year 1990-91 a quantity of 2.18 lakh Metric Tonnes of Iodised salt was supplied to the State of Madhya Pradesh under the National Goitre Control Programme.

In order to promote consumption of Iodised salt among tribals and other population group in the district/State, Health Education Activities are planned in a big way through IEC (Information Education Communication) Package

Right to Work a s Fundamental Right

6218. KUMARI UMA BHARATI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to